

Tom Lantos

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS RANKING DEMOCRATIC MEMBER

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE November 15, 2004

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Lantos Praises Powell's Leadership, Record of Service

Washington, **DC** – Congressman Tom Lantos (D-CA), the ranking Democrat on the House International Relations Committee, made the following comment on the news that Secretary of State Colin Powell will be stepping down:

"Colin Powell commands tremendous respect on Capitol Hill; his successor will have quite a legacy to live up to. During a volatile period in U.S. foreign policy, Secretary Powell exercised great leadership within the State Department and abroad, protected the interests of the Department, and built on the work of Madeleine Albright on approaching the complex issues that confront the United States in the world today. The nation is grateful to Secretary Powell for his lifetime of distinguished public service."